## **News Release**





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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## REFUGE ENTRANCE FEES TO BE WAIVED ON NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY

Refuge Manager Deborah Long announced today that all entrance fees to Elizabeth A. Morton and Target Rock National Wildlife Refuges will be waived on National Public Lands Day, September 30, 2006 to allow Americans the opportunity to discover the importance of America's public places. Americans are proving that they care about public lands, which are used by everyone for recreation, education, and just plain enjoyment.

National Public Lands Day is a program of the National Environmental Education and Training foundation in partnership with federal, state, and local public lands agencies including U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Bureau of Land Management. This year marks the 13<sup>th</sup> annual National Public Lands Day and will focus on improving habitats on public lands. According to Long, this is an annual fee free day as part of an interagency effort for all Americans to come out and enjoy the outdoors in our National Wildlife Refuges, National Parks, monuments, forests, grasslands, marine sanctuaries, lakes, and reservoirs managed by Federal Government agencies.

Refuge Manager Long encourages everyone to take advantage of America's one-of-kind natural treasures by visiting the Elizabeth A. Morton and Target Rock National Wildlife Refuges on Saturday, September 30, 2006.

For additional information, please view our website <a href="http://www.fws.gov/northeast/longislandrefuges/">http://www.fws.gov/northeast/longislandrefuges/</a> or contact the Long Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex Office at 631-286-0485.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's National Wildlife Refuge System is to "administer a national network of lands and waters for the conservation, management, and where appropriate, restoration of the fish, wildlife, and plant resources and their habitats within the United States for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans."